



Governing Board Meeting
September 9, 2010

Ecological Conditions Update

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Director, Restoration Sciences Department

Kissimmee Basin

Conditions in the Kissimmee Basin continue to be seasonally normal

- A hydrilla bloom in the central Phase I area is being considered for treatment this year
- Dissolved Oxygen concentrations in the Phase I river channel have remained above the level of concern

Lake Okeechobee

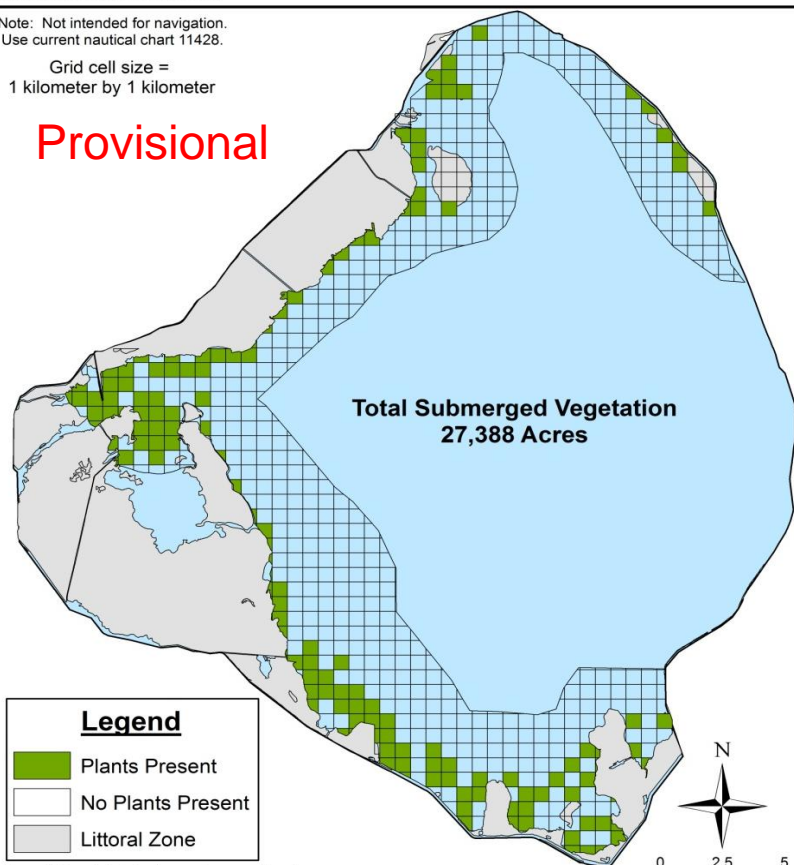
Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Map For Lake Okeechobee August 2010

Lake Okeechobee Division

Note: Not intended for navigation.
Use current nautical chart 11428.

Grid cell size =
1 kilometer by 1 kilometer

Provisional

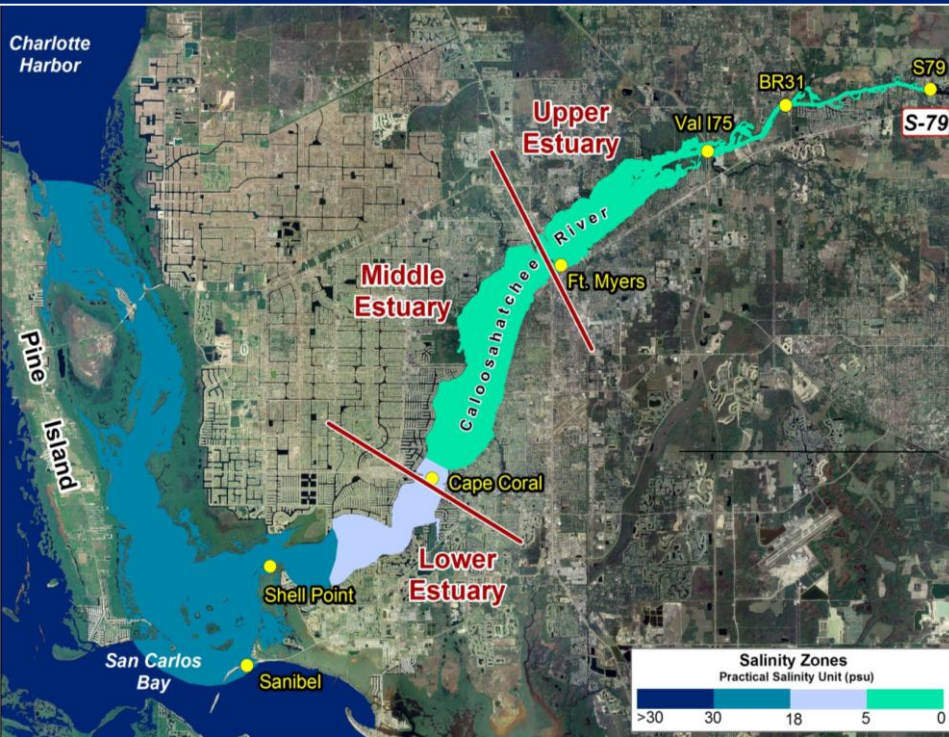


For additional details, log on to www.sfwmd.gov
or contact Therese East at 561.681.2500 X4565

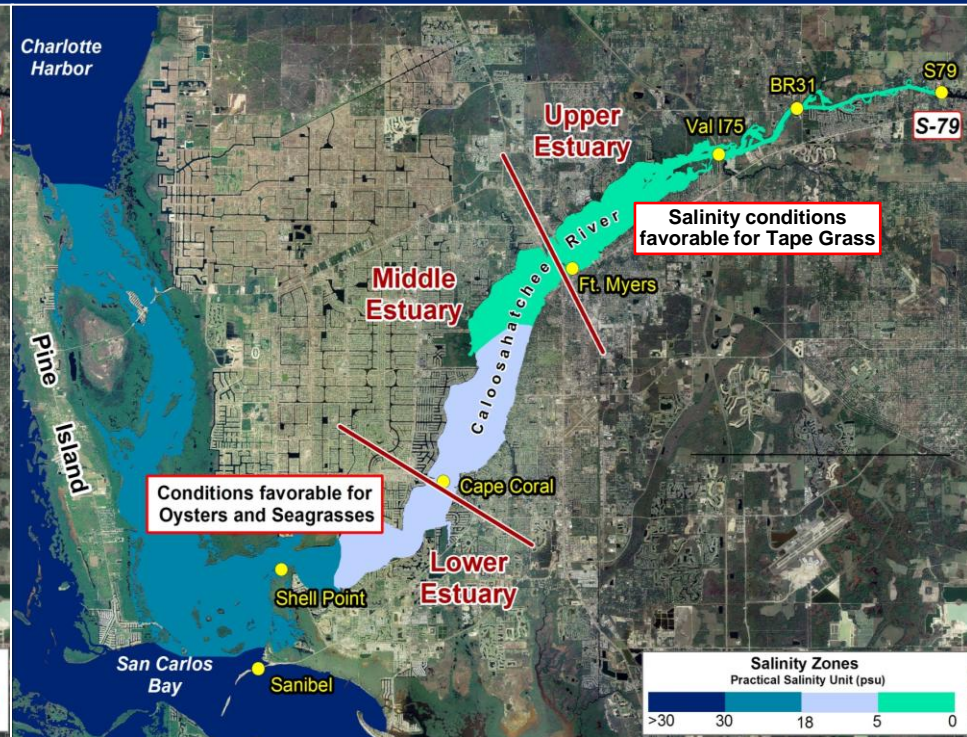
	2009	2010	DIFF
Total acres	46,418	27,388	-19,030
<i>ACRES BY SPECIES</i>			
Muskgrass, Skunkweed (Chara)	25,278	7,792	-17,486
Eel Grass, Tape Grass (Vallisneria)	6,497	4,004	-2,493
Waterweed (Hydrilla)	15,816	12,327	-3,489
Pondweed (Potamogeton)	1,380	2,667	+1,287
Hornwort, Coon's tail (Ceratophyllum)	12,489	9,695	-2,794

Caloosahatchee Salinity

August, 2010 Conditions

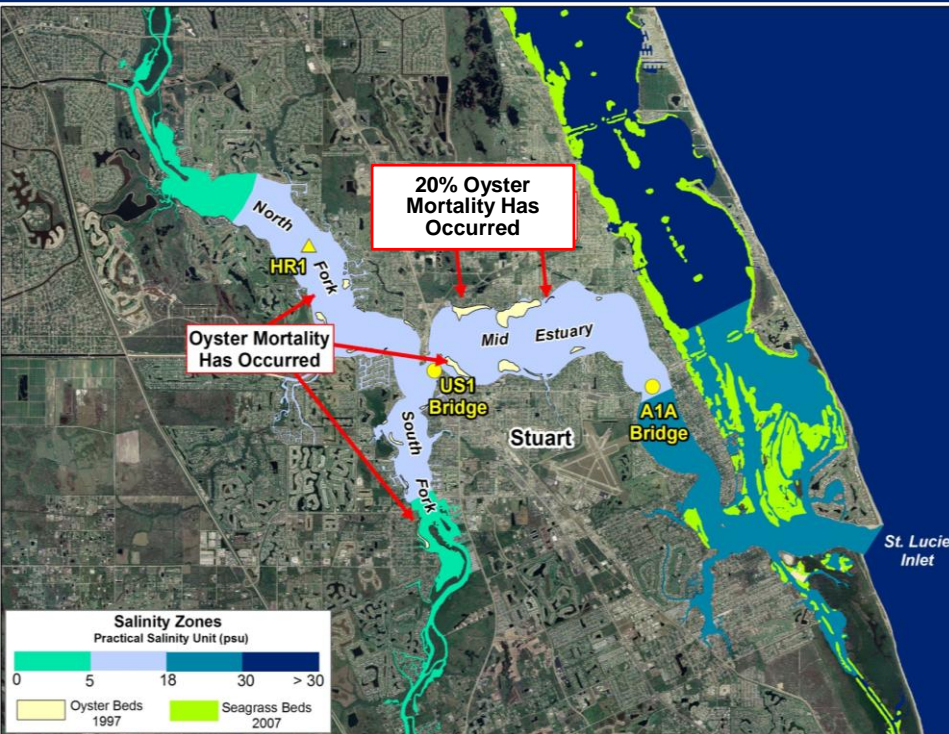


September, 2010 Conditions

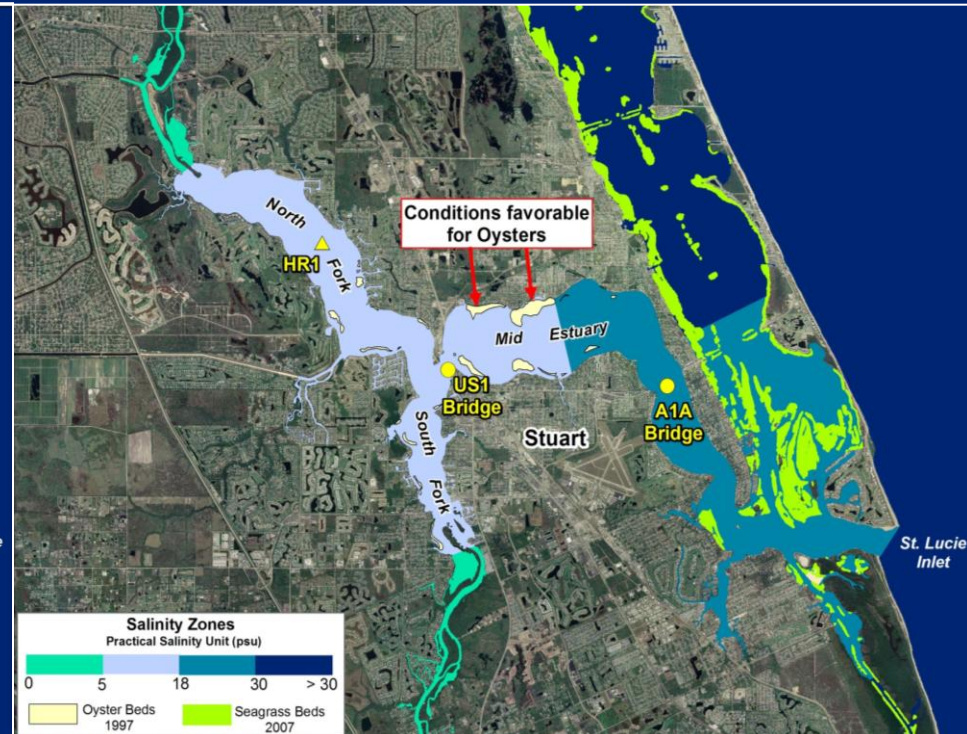


St. Lucie Salinity

August, 2010 Conditions

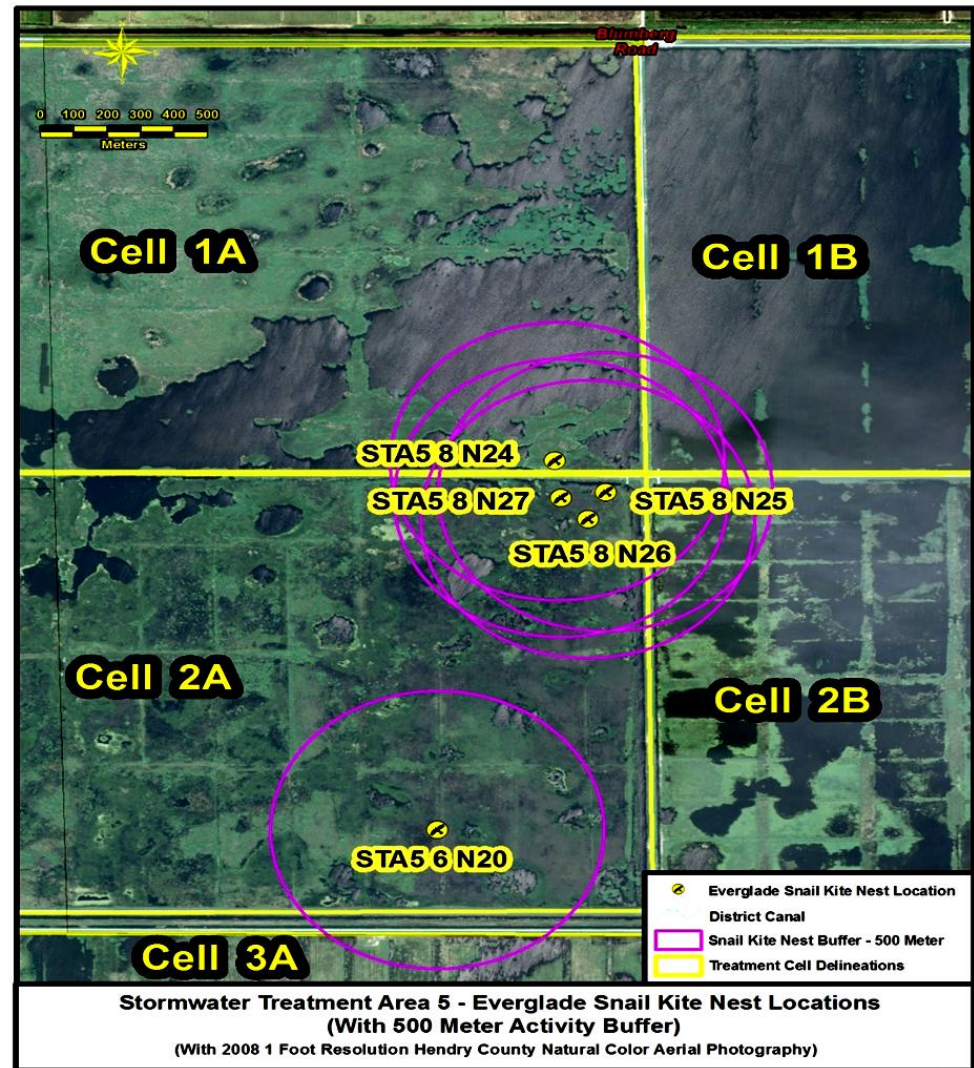


September, 2010 Conditions



Stormwater Treatment Areas

Five active snail kite nests remain in STA 5



STA 5 Operations for Snail Kites

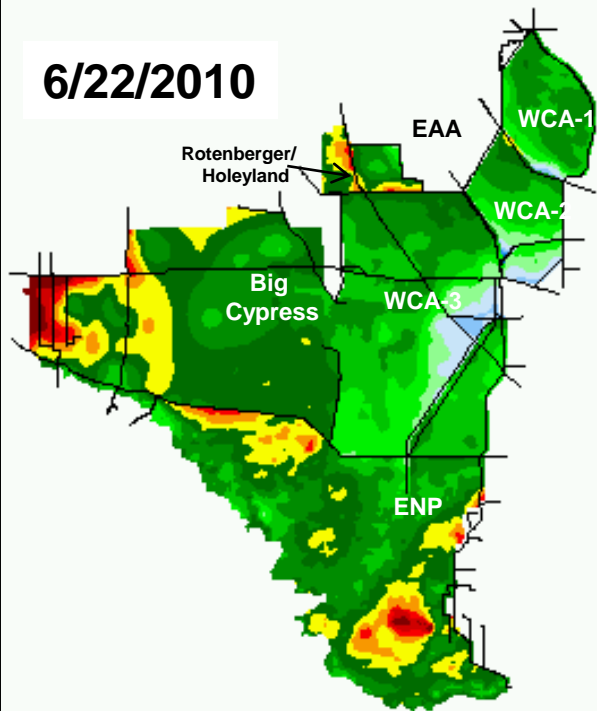
- Diverted water to STA-6 increased flows and loads
- Set limits on the stage in STA-5 cells including both upper and lower stage limits
- The limitation of the STA-5 cell stages impacted construction in Compartment C and resulted in stop-work orders
- Developed a protocol for diversion during a storm event –untreated water will be passed and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to be consulted, before a nest is “taken”
- Snail kite nests have restricted ability to control floating exotics



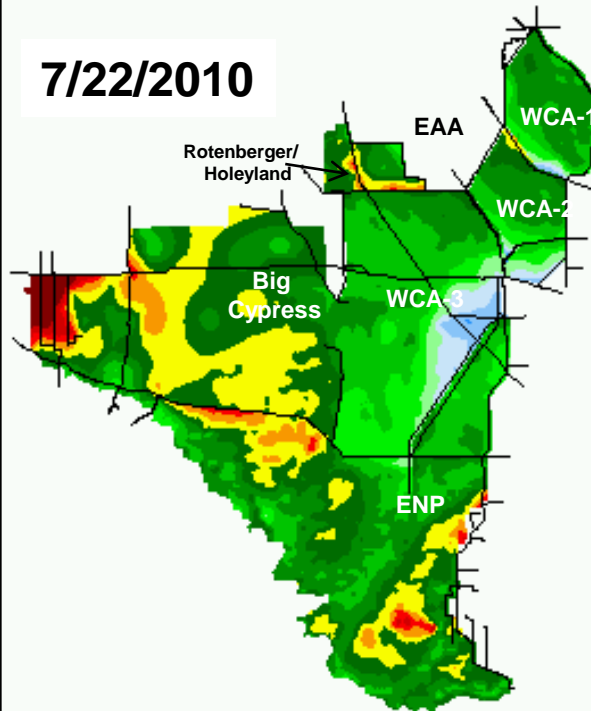
Greater Everglades

Water Depth Monthly Snapshots

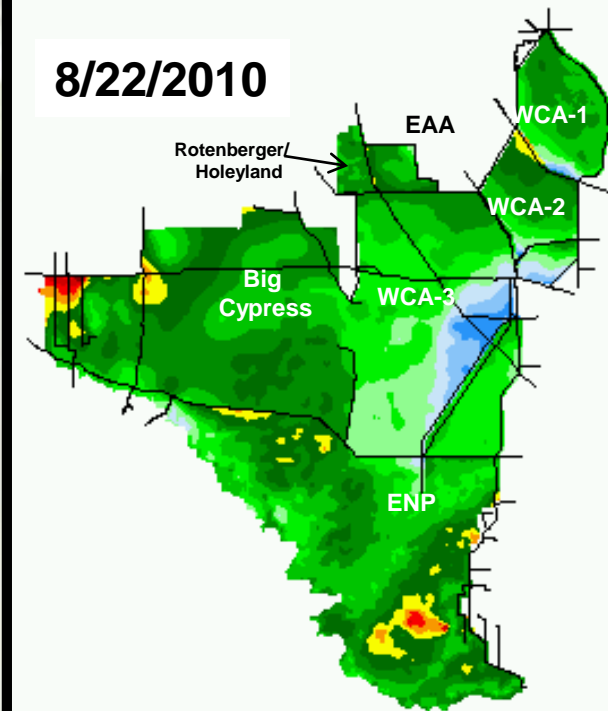
6/22/2010



7/22/2010



8/22/2010



Water Depth (feet)



Thank You!



From left to right: Clyde Butcher - photographer, Bill Graf - Orlando Service Center,
Brent Anderson - Kissimmee Division, Lawrence Glenn - Kissimmee Division, Elam Soltzfus - videographer

Executive Summary

- **Kissimmee** – conditions are seasonally normal; hydrilla bloom in lower basin being considered for treatment by Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission
- **Lake Okeechobee** – conditions very good; recent mapping results indicate healthy and abundant submerged aquatic vegetation coverage for fish habitat
- **Caloosahatchee Estuary** – minimum to no lake releases; but recent high basin runoff has caused salinity conditions in lower estuary to be poor for oysters and seagrasses
- **St. Lucie Estuary** – minimum lake releases and low basin runoff, so salinity conditions remain good for oysters and seagrasses
- **Stormwater Treatment Area 5** – special operations underway comply with Endangered Species Act to protect 5 remaining Snail Kite Nests
- **Everglades** - typical seasonal increases in water depths, but conditions remain favorable for Tree Islands

Thank You!



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Brent Anderson - Kissimmee Division, Lawrence Glenn - Kissimmee Division, Elam Soltzfus - videographer